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DAN SMOOT

FOREIGN AIDING AND ABETTING

Since 1946, the net amount of aid we have given to Western Hemisphere nations totals $10.2 billion.[1] Today, practically every nation in the Hemisphere is hostile to the United States.

To the north of us there is prosperous Canada, traditionally our best friend, which has received $26.1 million in aid from us.[1] Canada has been harshly critical of us over Vietnam. Like Sweden (another friend that has received $144.7 million[1] in aid from us), Canada provides a haven for our draft dodgers and deserters.

On October 13, 1970, Pierre Trudeau, Canada's new-left prime minister, established diplomatic relations with the communist dictatorship of mainland China, recognizing it as "the sole legal government of China."[2]

I suspect that pro-communists in our own State Department helped contrive this deliberate Canadian slap at the United States, to provide an excuse for reversing our twenty-one-year-old policy of withholding recognition of the communist dictatorship and opposing UN membership for it. Whether or not the Trudeau move leads to U.S. diplomatic recognition, it will open the door for communist China to enter the UN eventually. Think what it will mean to the security of the United States when agents of Red China, with unlimited access to the "longest undefended border on earth" (the boundary between Canada and the U.S.), can come and go inside our country under UN diplomatic immunity.

To the south of us (from the Rio Grande to Tierra Del Fuego at the southern tip of the Hemisphere, and in all the little island nations off the coasts of North-, Central-, and South America), communist influence and contempt for the United States are growing at about the same pace.

From Mexico to Chile, most nations with important salt-water fishing industries have seized U.S. fishing boats in international waters, accusing the U.S. vessels of poaching in national waters.[3,4] Heavy fines, prolonged detention, and personal abuse are imposed on our fishermen; but our govern-

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ment continues to aid the pirating nations — some of whom use U.S. Navy craft (given or lent to them) in capturing U.S. fishing boats.

Uruguay — fabulously rich in undeveloped natural resources, but impoverished and in political chaos because of the total socialism adopted years ago — has received $169.5 million in aid from us.[1] In August this year, communist guerrillas kidnapped two U.S. officials in Uruguay. They murdered one, but are still holding the other — Dr. Claude Fly — for ransom. The ransom they demand is that the government of Uruguay permit Uruguayan newspapers to publish the guerrillas' manifesto. The government refuses. Dr. Fly is seriously ill. Every day he remains in captivity endangers his life. Our State Department seems to want total silence about this case. According to friends and members of the Fly family, a Catholic priest rallied U.S. nationals in Uruguay and Argentina to work for Dr. Fly's release, by writing to U. S. Senators in their home states; but the U.S. Embassy in Montevideo warned Americans there not to get involved, and told them to make no appeals to their Senators back home. The State Department claims to be doing everything possible for Dr. Fly, but its effort does not show.

Of the $10.2 billion in aid that we have given to Western Hemisphere nations since 1946, $7.3 billion went to the following nine countries: Argentina, $385.9 million; Bolivia, $532.4 million; Brazil, $2.8 billion; Chile, $1.4 billion; Colombia, $1.05 billion; Costa Rica, $172.9 million; Cuba, $43.8 million; Mexico, $501.5 million; Peru, $460.6 million.[1] Since 1959, these nine nations have confiscated, or forced the sale of, about three billion dollars worth of property owned by U.S. businesses.[4] In some cases, no reparations at all were made the U.S. firms. In no case were adequate reparations made. In all cases, our government has continued aid to the countries expropriating American property. Our continuing aid to communist Cuba goes through SUNFED — Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development.

In 1963, an anti-communist group seized power in Peru. Our government did not cut off all aid to Peru at that time, but did cold-shoulder the anti-communist regime and refuse to extend full diplomatic recognition. The present pro-communist group, which has expropriated American property in Peru, enjoys full diplomatic recognition by, and aid from, the U.S. government.

The vast amount of aid we have given Bolivia and Chile ($1.9 billion total)[1] was intended, ostensibly, to give them enough stability to keep them from going communist. Both went communist this year: Chileans elected a communist president; a communist dictator seized power in Bolivia. The United States quickly granted diplomatic recognition to the communist dictatorship in Bolivia. Under Nixon's policy, according to White House press officer Robert J. McCloskey, "the United States will deal with governments as it finds them."[5]

Apparently, Nixon has not yet found the government of Rhodesia. He continues to withhold diplomatic recognition from the parliamentary, representative, pro-American Ian Smith government, and continues to impose a UN-ordered economic boycott of Rhodesia.

Rhodesia and the Republic of South Africa are two lonely bastions of Christianity and western civilization on the continent of Africa; they are the only two which share with us a common political and cultural heritage; they are the only two which have governmental systems remotely comparable to ours; they are the ony two in which there is some perceptible trace of friendliness toward the United States; they are the only African nations which have received *no* aid from the U.S. government; and they are the only African nations which our government has treated badly — shamefully, in the case of Rhodesia.

To 40 other African nations (black and Arab), we have given aid totaling $5.05 billion.[1] All of them hate us. Practically all of them are ruled by dictatorships. Most of them are controlled, direct-

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ly or indirectly, by communists under orders from Moscow or Peking.

There is another puzzling contradiction in our government's African and foreign-aid policies.

Since Somalia became an independent African nation in July, 1960, we have given it $80 million. From the beginning, Somalia was pro-communist, anti-American. In October, 1969, a communist cabal, calling itself the Revolutionary Council, openly seized power in Somalia. We continued our aid. Shortly after seizing power, the Revolutionary Council confiscated major foreign-held businesses, some of them owned by Americans. We continued our aid. In June, 1970, however, the U.S. announced cessation of economic aid to Somalia because ships flying her colors visited North Vietnam.[6]

We continue aiding communist Poland, which carries on a big trade with North Vietnam. Ships flying the flags of other nations which have received literally billions in aid from us (Great Britain, Greece, Italy, West Germany, Panama, France, to name only some) have been hauling vast quantities of goods to North Vietnam all along. Their shipping has been vital — indispensable — to the communists. Somalia has a population of 2.5 million people, 70 per cent of whom are nomadic herdsmen. Her shipping to North Vietnam could not possibly be important. President Nixon makes a gesture of protest about Somalia's insignificant trade with Hanoi, but does nothing about trade that has made possible Hanoi's survival.

Why? Again, I suspect machinations by pro-communists in our own State Department. What if political pressures became heavy enough in this election year to induce the Republican administration to do something about our subsidized friends supplying our enemy with the sinews of war? That could hurt the communists. How to deflate possible pressures for action that might hurt the communists? Make a gesture, harmless to communism, to placate U.S. anti-communists by giving Nixon the image of being tough about trading with our enemy. What could be more harmless to communism than cracking down on Somalia's shipping to North Vietnam? Nothing, that I can think of.

We have given no aid to nations on the continent of Antarctica, because there are no nations there. The island-continent of Australia seems to remain friendly to us, despite the fact that we have given Australia $601 million aid.

Our aid to nations on the continents of Asia and Europe (and to the island nations near those continents) has produced consequences more harmful to us, in some ways, than the consequences of our aid to nations in the Western Hemisphere and in Africa.

Note the following from Congressman H. R. Gross's Legislative Report No. 1082:

"During World War II, U.S. bombers blasted into rubble the shipyards of Germany and Japan. When the fighting ended, the U.S. not only foreswore reparations from both countries [which victor nations usually impose on the defeated], but it poured hundreds of millions of dollars into each of them to rebuild their industries, including new shipyards with the most modern equipment.

"Today, the demand by American and other oil producers is for huge tankers . . . costing about $25 million each. Several are being built in German and Japanese shipyards. Why? Because American shipyards can't compete. Their drydocks are too small, their equipment is obsolete, and labor costs are too high to compete with much-lower-paid foreign labor."

The aid we have given West Germany and Japan since World War II totals $7.1 billion — $3.7 billion to Germany, $3.4 billion to Japan.[1]

Not ony the ship-building industry but many others in the United States have been crippled by

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competition from Japanese and European industries which our foreign aid helped modernize with the newest and best equipment and the most advanced U.S. technology. Consider the textile industry. Between 1947 and 1958, 280 American textile mills closed down; and domestic textile machinery in operation dropped 50 per cent, while imports of foreign woven cloth (mostly from Japan) increased 735 per cent. Why? During that time, American textile manufacturers were paying taxes for foreign aid to subsidize and modernize their foreign competitors; they were paying wages ten times higher than Japanese mills paid for comparable labor; and they were paying *more* for American cotton than our government was requiring Japanese (and other foreign) mills to pay. In the early 1960's, our government persuaded Japan to impose some restrictions on her textile imports to the U.S.; and the U.S. textile industry made some recovery. Now, however, the industry is in bad shape again. Last year, 65,000 U.S. textile workers lost their jobs because of competition from Japan. During the first nine months of 1970, more than 81,000 U.S. textile workers lost their jobs for the same reason.(7)

The same thing is happening to the shoe industry. U.S. shoes that have a factory cost of about $9.00 a pair now compete with Spanish-made shoes of equal quality that have a factory cost of $4.50 a pair — the lower cost in Spain resulting from lower labor costs and lower tax costs.

While our government was building European and Japanese productive capacity, with our money, it was admitting their goods into America with low, or no, tariff charges. The Europeans and Japanese, however, had (and still have) insurmountable trade barriers against many American products.(7)

SUGGESTION: Help elect a Congress that will stop foreign aid. A Congress with that much statesmanship would cure most of the ills that past Congresses and Presidents have caused.

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FOOTNOTES

(1) "To The American Taxpayer," report on foreign aid by Congressman Otto E. Passman (Louisiana Democrat, chairman of Foreign Operations Subcommittee on Appropriations), July 1, 1970
(2) UPI, Oct. 13, 1970; William S. White column, Oct. 19, 1970
(3) *Dallas Times Herald*, May 27, 1963; *Dallas Morning News*, May 31, 1963; *Los Angeles Times*, June 12, 1965; Washington *Evening Star*, June 20, 1969
(4) Legislative Report No. 1075, Congressman H. R. Gross, July 29, 1970
(5) AP, Oct. 14, 1970
(6) AP, Oct. 21, 1970
(7) "U.S. Wants 2-Way Street In Its Trade," *Dallas Morning News*, Oct. 22, 1970

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